

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method of making a digital voice library utilized for
2 converting text to concatenated voice in accordance with a set of playback rules, the
3 digital voice library including a plurality of speech items and a corresponding
4 plurality of voice recordings wherein each speech item corresponds to at least one
5 available voice recording, wherein multiple voice recordings that correspond to a
6 single speech item represent various inflections of that single speech item, the
7 method comprising:

8 establishing a vocal sequence;
9 recording a voice talent uttering the vocal sequence;
10 generating a complex tone that reflects a particular inflection required
11 for a particular voice recording of a particular speech item, the complex tone being
12 composed of portions of the recording of the voice talent uttering the vocal
13 sequence; and
14 recording the voice talent reciting the particular speech item to make
15 the particular voice recording, the voice talent using the complex tone as a guide to
16 allow the voice talent to recite the particular speech item in accordance with the
17 particular inflection.

1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein establishing the vocal
2 sequence and recording the voice talent further comprise:
3 establishing the vocal sequence as a sequence of words; and
4 recording the voice talent speaking the sequence of words.

1 3. The method of claim 1 wherein establishing the vocal
2 sequence and recording the voice talent further comprise:
3 establishing the vocal sequence as a sequence of tones; and
4 recording the voice talent humming the sequence of tones.

1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein establishing the vocal
2 sequence and recording the voice talent further comprise:
3 establishing the vocal sequence as a sequence of words; and

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4 recording the voice talent singing the sequence of words.

1 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the particular speech item is
2 a phoneme.

1 6. The method of claim 1 wherein the particular speech item is
2 a syllable.

1 7. The method of claim 1 wherein the particular speech item is
2 a word.

1 8. The method of claim 1 wherein the particular speech item is
2 a phrase.

1 9. The method of claim 1 wherein the particular speech item is
2 a sentence.

1 10. A digital voice library utilized for converting text to
2 concatenated voice in accordance with a set of playback rules, the digital voice
3 library including a plurality of speech items and a corresponding plurality of voice
4 recordings wherein each speech item corresponds to at least one available voice
5 recording, wherein multiple voice recordings that correspond to a single speech
6 item represent various inflections of that single speech item, the digital voice library
7 further comprising a particular voice recording of a particular speech item, the
8 particular voice recording requiring a particular inflection and being made by:
9 establishing a vocal sequence;
10 recording a voice talent uttering the vocal sequence;
11 generating a complex tone that reflects the particular inflection
12 required for the particular voice recording of the particular speech item, the complex
13 tone being composed of portions of the recording of the voice talent uttering the
14 vocal sequence; and
15 recording the voice talent reciting the particular speech item to make
16 the particular voice recording, the voice talent using the complex tone as a guide to

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17 allow the voice talent to recite the particular speech item in accordance with the
18 particular inflection.

1 11. The digital voice library of claim 10 wherein establishing the
2 vocal sequence and recording the voice talent further comprise:
3 establishing the vocal sequence as a sequence of words; and
4 recording the voice talent speaking the sequence of words.

1 12. The digital voice library of claim 10 wherein establishing the
2 vocal sequence and recording the voice talent further comprise:
3 establishing the vocal sequence as a sequence of tones; and
4 recording the voice talent humming the sequence of tones.

1 13. The digital voice library of claim 10 wherein establishing the
2 vocal sequence and recording the voice talent further comprise:
3 establishing the vocal sequence as a sequence of words; and
4 recording the voice talent singing the sequence of words.

1 14. The digital voice library of claim 10 wherein the particular
2 speech item is a phoneme.

1 15. The digital voice library of claim 10 wherein the particular
2 speech item is a syllable.

1 16. The digital voice library of claim 10 wherein the particular
2 speech item is a word.

1 17. The digital voice library of claim 10 wherein the particular
2 speech item is a phrase.

1 18. The digital voice library of claim 10 wherein the particular
2 speech item is a sentence.